

02
G

CAMPAIGN FINANCE DIVISION

☒ WAIVER REQUEST
☐ RECONSIDERATION REQUEST

DATE: 6/2/2021
DOCKET #:

FILER INFORMATION

Name: John Mason
Office: PSC, District 1
Parish: JEFFERSON
Election Date: 11/3/2020
Level of Office: Major

4716 Kawanee Avenue
Metairie, LA 70006-2719

REPORT INFORMATION

Name of Report: 10-G
Original Due Date: 11/25/2020
Date Filed: 12/5/2020
Activity Receipts: \$67.37
Expenditures: \$0
Funds at Close of Reporting Period: \$485.17

LATE FEE INFORMATION

Amount of Late Fee: \$1000
Days Late: 10
Late Fee Order Received: 3/1/2021
Payment/Waiver Request Due Date: 3/23/2021
Waiver Request Received: 3/19/2021
Additional Information Requested:
- Medical
- Financial
- Other

COMMENTS: Candidate mailed in his waiver request and states that he did not advance past the primary and he freely admits that the report was late because he did not think he had to file it. He thought only a Supplemental report was required since he did not advance past the primary. He said he ran a true grass roots campaign and only raised approximately \$3,000. He said he would like to point out that the letter informing him that the report was due took 6 days to be delivered which added \$600 to the fine and if Ethics staff would have sent an email on the date of the letter it would have saved the campaign money.

OTHER LATE FEE INFORMATION

Campaign Finance:

Other Outstanding Reports: No
Other Outstanding Late Fees: No
Prior Late Fees: YES
Reassessed Late Fees: No

Disclosure Statements:

Other Outstanding Late Fees: No
Prior Late Fees: No

To: Louisiana Board of Ethics
P.O. Box 4368
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Fm: John Mason
4716 Kawanee Ave.
Metairie, LA 70006

March 15, 2021

Dear Sir or Madam,

My name is John Mason, and I am in receipt of your letter sent via Certified Mail Number 70200640000079871063 regarding my 10-G Campaign Finance Disclosure Report, which was filed 10 days late. I ran for Public Service Commissioner of District 1. Despite winning two of the eleven parishes in the district and receiving over 57,000 votes, I did not advance past the primary round. I freely admit that the report was late because I did not think I had to file it. This was my mistake, I thought that only a supplemental report was required since I did not advance past the primary. My campaign finance report shows that the campaign had no spending during the period the report except for the monthly cell phone bill and the monthly bank service charge.

I ran a true grass roots campaign and only raised approximately \$3,000 in total. There is less than \$400 remaining in the campaign account. Quite frankly the \$1,000 fine is ruinous to the campaign, which does not have the funds to pay it at the present time. I would like to point out that your letter informing me the report was due took six days to be delivered. I realize the law requires you to send the notice via certified mail, but the six days it took for it to be delivered added \$600 to the fine. If you had sent an email on the date you sent the letter (and I realize you are under no obligation to do so) you would have saved the campaign \$600. This is 60% of the amount of the fine! Enforcing this fine will bankrupt my campaign and seriously hinder my ability to run for office in the future.

I ask that you waive the entire fine, as there was no malice in the late filing, just a simple misunderstanding on my part. I filed it immediately after receiving notice that it was late. At the very least please waive the \$600 portion that accrued by the simple fact that it took the notice six entire days to travel from Baton Rouge to Metairie.

Sincerely,

John Mason

John Mason

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Metairie, LA 70006

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Louisiana Board of Ethics
P.O. Box 4368
Baton Rouge, LA
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chedule free Package Pickup,
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